

Message Text

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14

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-12 ADP-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 CPR-02 RSR-01 /115 W

----- 028906

R 242036 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8136

INFO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LY, UN (SWEDEN, DAW ALI)

SUBJ: ACTIVITIES OF LAR MISSION

REF: (A) STATE 097571

(B) TRIPOLI 690

1. SWEDAN IS NEWLY ARRIVED LIBYAN MISSION MINISTER.

2. A REVIEW OF OUR RECORDS SINCE 1960 REVEALS NO REPEAT NO CASE IN WHICH USG HAS PROTESTED AGAINST ADVERTISEMENTS PLACED IN PRESS OR POPULAR PERIODICALS BY A UN MISSION. WHILE SUCH ADVERTISEMENTS ARE NOT COMMON, THEY HAVE APPEARED FROM TIME TO TIME FROM VARIOUS QUARTERS.

ADVERTISEMENT DOES NOT APPEAR TO VIOLATE HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT OR ANY OTHER FORMAL UNDERTAKING OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE, INCLUDING VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

3. IN ADDITION, LOCAL NEWSPAPERS OFTEN PUBLISH LETTERS FROM PERM REPS OR OTHER MEMBERS OF PERMANENT MISSIONS TO UN. EVEN IF THEY TAKE ISSUE WITH US FOREIGN POLICY, WE DO NOT PROTEST THEIR RIGHT TO DO SO.

4. WHILE LIBYAN ADVERTSIEMENT IS OBVIOUSLY IN BAD TASTE, WE
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DOUBT THAT IT HAS HAD ANY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT; ON CONTRARY, WE SUSPECT THAT ADVERTISEMENT GENERALLY WILL HAVE SEEMED TO NEW YORK TIMES READERSHIP TO HAVE BEEN POLEMICAL, FOOLISH AND/ OR POSTURING. OUR HISTORIC ATTITUDES OF FREE SPEECH AND TRADITION OF MARKETPLACE OF

IDEAS FURTHER ARGUE AGAINST OUR SELECTING THIS TASTELESS TRANSGRESSION FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT. MISSION ALSO WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT OBJECTIONABLE PARTS OF ADVERTISEMENT (PARA 3 REFTEL A) INCLUDED IN RESUME OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT 1972 CONFERENCE, WHICH, IF ACCURATE, COULD BE CONSIDERED SIMPLE STATEMENT OF FACT, HOWEVER UNPALATABLE.

5. WE EXPERIENCE LITTLE COOPERATION FROM LIBYANS HERE UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. BUT WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO BE IN POSITION OF HAVING SINGLED THAT MISSION OUT FOR SCOLDING WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO CITE LEGAL BASIS OR BEING ABLE TO RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY TO THAT MISSION' S NATURAL CURIOSITY AS TO WHETHER OR NOT WE EITHER HAVE COMPLAINED IN PAST OR WILL COMPLAIN IN FUTURE ABOUT SIMILAR ACTIVITY BY OTHER MISSIONS.

6. SINGLING OUT LIBYANS FOR THIS TREATMENT COULD BE USED BY ARABS, INCLUDING AT FORTHCOMING ME DEBATE, AS EVIDENCE OF USG BIAS. SCALI

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NMAFVVZCZ
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